### 9<sup>th</sup> School Site Public Hearing

December 3, 2015

## Where we are: Both boards committed to a rigorous, transparent process

- Civic Moxie hired to deliver a data-driven report: analyzed 26 sites with detailed study of 6 sites
  - Staff analyzed 6 sites and recommended Cottage Farm and Isabel sites to the Boards as worthy of further analysis and due diligence
  - Full report publicly released except cost information (to protect Town's negotiating position)
- Currently gathering public input
  - Over a dozen public meetings: 2 Open Houses for all residents; 6 Town boards and commissions; multiple meetings with Town Meeting Members and neighbors

### Process Going Forward (ideal)

- Data-driven Study Phase (through Jan. 2016)
- Due Diligence Phase (Winter 2016–Summer 2016)
- Decision Phase (Fall 2016)
- Schematic Design Phase (Fall, Winter 2017)
- Approval Phase (Feb. May 2017)
- Final Design Phase (ideally begins Summer 2017)
- Construction Phase (ideally ends Sep. 2020)

# What we've heard: Most frequent comments

- Excitement about a rigorous, data-driven study of possible 9<sup>th</sup> school sites
- Consensus that a 9th school is needed
- Need for more clarity on the process after Jan. 2016
- Need clarity on interaction with High School project, and 3 vs. 4 section school?
- Desire to consider sites beyond 2 initially preferred or even beyond the 26 considered by Civic Moxie

### Cottage Farm

- Many positive comments about building in densely-populated North Brookline; some concerns about South Brookline needs
- Effect on neighbors and neighborhood
  - Significant concern about eminent domain in this location
- Effects on open space and the environment
  - Amory Playground, Hall's Pond, Amory Woods
  - Loss of private green space
  - Former swamp; flooding in nearby buildings, Amory Playground
  - Pilings needed for new building next door
- Traffic
- Local Historic District Issues
- Constrained site

#### Isabel School at the Larz sheds

- Many positive comments about the potential to "up-cycle" a currently poor use of important space
  - Positive comments that the design would not infringe on prime green space, and would increase positive park use
- Potential use restrictions (1970's grant)
- Open Space Issues
  - Effect on Larz Anderson Park as a whole
- Redistricting impact: School would not have many walkable families
- Traffic
  - No public transit in area

### Finally

Consequences of no 9<sup>th</sup> School

Impact of a decision to pursue MSBA funding